

## THE GOSSIP OF GOTHAM.

### Why Mrs. Mackay Went Abroad in Haste Equipped for Battle.

Over Cleveland and the Bar-How O. H. Belmont Made a Wager with Lord Rosebery—How as a New Fad of Women—Royalty and Presents.

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The sudden advent of Mrs. John W. Mackay and her equally precipitous departure for Europe have not a little puzzled those who were assured that this versatile matron proposed to establish herself in New York in the capacity of petticoat Beau Brummel. No doubt she had some idea of the sort in her mind.

WHITE'S SYSTEM.

An idea not remotely connected with the ambitious project of getting her son safely wedded to a well-known heiress, who shall be nameless here. That she will be here very shortly no one questions, but her going has brought up once more a peculiar society snarl, quite unprecedented in cultured purloins. Mrs. Mackay is a partisan on one side of the war, and hastened to London with the intention of being prominent in the fray.

The conflict arises out of the rival ambitions of Henry White, our former secretary of legation in London, and the present American ambassadorial regime there to control the social destinies of our countrymen and countrywomen. Henry White has never forgiven those who caused his rather ignominious ejection from a position of great social importance. His wrongs were taken up by a numerous section of the American colony, which believed that Mr. White had been tricked out to get an Astor in. It was bitterly asserted that Mr. White would take a house in London and show the ambassadorial regime that it would suffer socially. To be sure, the ambassador presents at court, but the ambassador cannot get the smart set to take anyone up. That requires another kind of influence—the sort possessed by Henry White. When, therefore, any individual had the backing of the embassy he was sure to be frowned down by the White faction.

That brought about a highly complicated situation for Americans eager to be recognized socially in England. Very soon our colony became hopelessly divided, and it began to look even as if Mr. Roosevelt must be recalled. Nay, there was a rumor circulated to that effect. Then it was that Mrs. Mackay hurried herself into the breach. It is alleged that the Whites, when in power, were somewhat supercilious to this powerful woman, and if so she is being amply repaid. She has, in spite of many eccentricities, enormous personal influence in London with the real Rotten Rowers, as they say over there, and it was not long before she had given the embassy quite a measure of influence with all of them.

But when Mrs. Mackay was compelled to absent herself from London matters assumed a less favorable aspect. Mr. White's proud boast that whatever happens he "saves wood and says nothing" became justifiable the moment his enemy had turned her back. She received many letters from London friends imploring her aid. Now that she has returned to Europe the situation may change materially.

### Howling as a Feminine Fad.

The sporting proclivities of the fair sex in New York are finding another outlet than the bicycle.

This new outlet is nothing other than a plan to put a feminine eight in the field, or, rather, on the water. The eight will comprise women of extreme fashion and wealth. They propose to issue a challenge this summer to a



club of males, and to row them off the course. A uniform has been adopted. It seems graceful and divine, quite likely to extinguish the glories of the bicyclic female. Among the interested supporters of the undertaking are Mrs. J. J. Astor, Mrs. George Gould, Mrs. Mackay and Mrs. Iselin. The idea itself comes from Paris, where the Orleans princesses originated it. The trouble heretofore in the way of success of such undertakings has been that publicity would invariably prove embarrassing to the fair devotees of the bar. This difficulty is in a measure to be obviated by the use of a private course. Dr. Seward Webb, it seems, having undertaken to provide one from the streams which flow through his numerous and princely domains.

### A Vindication.

Now that it has become a well-understood fact that two or more vacancies will soon exist in the supreme court of the United States, the quiet efforts of the metropolis to secure representation for the Empire state on that august bench have been re-

efforts brought out a rather curious fact—that Wheeler H. Peckham or William B. Hornblower is in the president's mind for renomination should any judges retire between now and 1897, as there is positive assurance will be the case. Hill's opposition is not expected to count for much after the tremendous setback he got back in his own state. Neither Mr. Hornblower nor Mr. Peckham is concerned in this sensational probability, but the president, it transpires, has been talking with some of the justices, and knows exactly who will retire and when. It came out in the course of the discussion that an odd accident had been responsible for the delay in the famed income tax decision. The justices exercised great caution in preventing any surreptitious information finding its way in advance to the public. Chief Justice Fuller kept his manuscript under lock and key for days, but when he looked it up for consultation with his fellow justices it was illegible on account of the ink, which had been spilled over it. For a time the judges actually feared there was another "leak," but Chief Justice Fuller went to work with his pen all over again and soon recovered lost time. The theory of the court was that mice had overturned the ink-well upon the legal lore, or that some vagrant insect had fluttered over the immortal words with damped antennae. Mice or bug, the creature added materially to the public suspense.

### Belmontana.

The Belmonts are conceded to be the practical arbiters of turf destinies in this country, a position which gives the man all-potent influence upon legislation affecting racing in New York. August Belmont in particular is likely to be an important character to the



BOTH FOR BELMONT. every human being in the metropolis with a taste for horseflesh. It is understood that his influence with the powers that be prevented a series of drastic legislative measures calculated to kill sport in the Empire state. With rare adroitness he has continued to remain equally "solid" with winners and losers of the turf.

This prominence of the Belmont name caused Rosebery to congratulate O. H. P. Belmont in London not very long before the spring meets in England. Mr. Belmont was in Lord Walsley's "drag" near Whitechapel one morning and the premier was desirous in a common hack.

"This is an unusual neighborhood for a premier to be found in, isn't it?" queried Mr. Belmont.

Whatever may have been replied to this does not appear, but that night the three gentlemen met again by a queer coincidence in the dining hour outside the odd eating place established on the parliamentary terrace. Lieut. Cowles, U. S. N., an attaché of the embassy, was talking with the premier.

"Good evening, Mr. Belmont," remarked Rosebery; "I will wager I can tell what you said to his lordship about me this morning when I rode by in that hack?"

Mr. Belmont was astonished, not having supposed the premier had seen them, but he took up the wager and the money was posted.

"You said," declared Rosebery, triumphantly, "that Whitechapel was the proper place for a premier to visit, because he should be as much at home among the poor as he is among the rich."

Mr. Belmont gave up his money. Royalty and Presents. The statement that British royalty never permits gifts to be accepted on its behalf must need qualification. It had its origin, or rather its reiteration, in a project of the King's Daughters in some of the states to present the duchess of York with an oil painting to acknowledge her kindness to a young woman of

on with the army itself, yet who turn themselves into prominence on claims that the grand army is "backing" them for official recognition. Particularly is this the case in New York. Men who apply for positions of importance in the public service make it a regular practice to represent in their petitions that they represent the veterans. Another practice is to organize veterans' clubs, in which there are no old soldiers whatever, yet it is claimed that the G. A. R. is recruiting it. This charlatanism has assumed such proportions that the commander in chief and his staff propose to take legal measures against the impostors.

### Jaqueminot.

White and yellow and red, they cling to her breast and throat. Red and yellow and white, they lie at her throat and breast. But the half-blown Jacqueminot, with its splendor, suits her best. Red as the flame touched shreds of cloud that over the sunset float.

There are no such flowers as roses, no rose like the red, red rose. Brier and tang and thorny stem, with vivid inner stain. Wrought of the earth and sun and shade, the dew and the swerving rain. And changing still in their ruddy hue when the soft southwest wind blows.

Petal and thorn and ragged stalk, with a June day's fragrance rite. They glow with the light of the dying sun and are more than fair. But the Jacqueminot half opened in the coils of her dusky hair. In the very incarnation of a rose's fleeting life.

For the white rose yields to the moment and drops her leaves. And the yellow rose in the dusty breezes droops and dries. But the red, red rose, deep steeped in the summer's days. Through the somber webs of autumn her pastorate color weaves.

A scattered petal here and there has fluttered to her feet. Her head is lying in idleness on the rim of the old sea wall. A rascal now and then, or a life itself. To die at her gown's white hem and find that death was sweet.

Thorn and leaf and briery stem and petals that open and close. The buried sun and shadowy gulls that in the twilight call. A woman's face, the ghostly sea, but subtler still than all.

The shape and hue of a Jacqueminot, the spell of the red, red rose.

—Ernest McGaffey.

The official report shows that at the recent school election in Toledo 2,412 women registered.

Associations for female workers are gradually gaining in numbers and influence.

A widows' club has just been founded in Dresden.

### THREE LETTERS

to remember—P. P. P. They'll help to remind you of Dr. Peckham's Pleasant Pills—and these are the things to keep in mind whenever your liver, your stomach, or your bowels are out of order.

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Chemisettes, pink and blue striped percale, these including cuffs 17c, usually sold at fifty cents.

Sweetest and subtlest of odors—the new one called Peau d'Espagne, 4 ounce bottles of sweet smell 50c.

Garter lengths of Schappe silk elastic, enough for two, 10c. This is good and very cheap.

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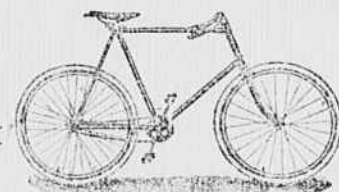
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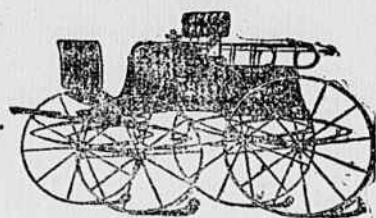
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